

I am categorically against any attempts to compel Internet broadband and VoIP providers to open their networks up to easy surveillance by law enforcement agencies. Not only will this pose inordinant technological constraints on software development (and thus stifle innovation), it undermines the utility and privacy of these communications media. Attempting to apply this law demonstrates a remarkable ignorance (on the part of law enforcement agencies) for the realities of the global software development and the technologies involved. Peer-to-peer systems have no backdoor -- thus the moniker "peer-to-peer"; likewise, computer communications network architectures are becoming increasingly decentralized -- making it nearly impossible to monitor from any central location.

Law enforcement would be better served (and tax dollars better utilized) in other pursuits. The computer mediated communications technologies require different ways of thinking -- antiquated models, as the one proposed here certainly is -- simply make no sense.